

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 9, 16-17, and 26-27 have been amended as follows. Underlines indicate insertions and ~~striketrough~~ indicate deletions in amended claims. Claims 34-38 have been canceled. Claim 39 is new.

**Listing of claims:**

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A method, ~~which comprises the step of~~ reducing restenosis in a patient having suffered a vascular injury, which comprises by administering to said patient a single dose unit of 1 to 5000  $\mu$ g/Kg of patient's body weight of 17- $\beta$  estradiol or a derivative thereof, in an amount effective to reduce restenosis, with a device at an injured site in the lumen of a blood vessel of said patient, wherein the 17- $\beta$  estradiol or a derivative thereof is present in a dose unit of 1 to 5000  $\mu$ g/Kg of the patient's body weight.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said dose is administered in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol or a derivative thereof is present in a dose unit of 10 to 50  $\mu$ g/Kg of patient's body weight.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol or a derivative thereof is present in a dose unit of 10 to 30  $\mu$ g/Kg of patient's body weight.

18-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the device is a catheter containing said 17- $\beta$  estradiol or derivative thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the device is a stent coated with said 17- $\beta$  estradiol or derivative thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol or derivative thereof is administered following percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA).

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol or derivative thereof is administered simultaneously to percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA).

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said method administers an effective dose of 17- $\beta$  estradiol.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol is present in a dose unit of 10 to 50  $\mu\text{g/Kg}$  of patient's body weight.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol is present in a dose unit of 10 to 30  $\mu\text{g/Kg}$  of patient's body weight.

28-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the device is a catheter containing said 17- $\beta$  estradiol, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the device is a stent coated with said 17- $\beta$  estradiol, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol is administered following percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA).

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said 17- $\beta$  estradiol is administered simultaneously to percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA).

34-38. (Canceled).

39. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the 17- $\beta$  estradiol or a derivative thereof is the only therapeutic moiety administered.